

STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary – September 27, 2005

Dean Large called the meeting to order. Following introductions, the minutes from July's meeting were voted on and approved.

Highlights of Status Report on Beyond Waste Implementation – Cheryl Smith

An updated implementation status report was distributed before the meeting (see attachment); Cheryl described a few of the projects, and answered questions from meeting participants about various projects. The status report is updated before each SWAC meeting and is available on the Beyond Waste website at www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/

Solid Waste Financing Evaluation – Cheryl Smith

A handout was provided on proposed first steps for beginning the financing evaluation called for in Recommendation SW14 of the Beyond Waste Plan (see attachment). The evaluation report will address the adequacy of existing funding mechanisms, and also will outline future financing needs. It is expected that the report will be completed sometime in 2007; however, information gathering and research could begin in the upcoming months. SWAC agreed to the following actions:

1. An informal workgroup will help identify information needs, expertise needs, interested stakeholders, a proposed process, and a schedule for developing the financing evaluation report.
2. The SWAC members on the informal workgroup are: Brad Lovaas, Gene Eckhardt, Dennis Durbin, Steve Wambach, Jerry Smedes and Suellen Mele.
3. The SWAC will be kept apprised as initial discussions occur, and will have an opportunity to consider and approve the proposed workplan for this effort.

Recycling Bill Implementation – Cullen Stephenson and Brad Lovaas

There was some controversy last session concerning SB 5788. This bill will be intended to promote legal recyclers and transporters of recyclable materials. The bill became effective in July 2005. Ecology will implement this fall. Randy Martin is working with Brad to draft forms for the recyclers to use. In about a year, Ecology will work on getting a rule together. The authority for reporting solid waste illegal dumping will still be with the local health departments. Ecology will help set up a contact at UTC.

Mercury Auto Switch – All

Ecology will proceed with the Memorandum of Understanding with auto manufacturers and scrappers. We have five counties currently signed up. The MOU is not popular with most counties. They wonder why they should pay to dispose of mercury switches.

EPA Reg'l Solid Waste Strategy/FY 05 grants – Domenic Calabro

There's a national initiative to find more flexible, protective ways to conserve natural resources and energy. Currently, there are 4 resource conservation priority areas: Municipal Solid Waste, beneficial reuse of secondary materials, green initiatives, and priority and toxic chemical reductions. EPA is currently awarding FY 05 dollars. FY 06 dollars will be available in a few months.

Domenic asked the SWAC to think of projects that EPA can help out with, whether it be expertise or dollars. There's \$80,000 in this funding cycle. This funding is not available to private businesses, but is available to state and local governments and non-profit organizations.

Legislative Update - All

The supplemental budget request is the largest we've ever seen, because of the strong revenue in toxics funds.

We are asking for \$8 million to make the Coordinated Prevention Grants program whole: Jim Matsuyama asked whether SWAC should do an endorsement letter to Jay Manning for the \$8 million restoration fee. It was agreed that SWAC would send such a letter as well as letters to Rep. Dunshee and Senator Fraser. Sego Jackson stated that Policy Forum (and others) are also working on this issue.

E-waste – you won't see an Ecology-sponsored bill on e-waste, but there will be others. A subcommittee is currently working with stakeholders on this issue, and though we are hopeful for a consensus, it looks doubtful.

Tires – HB 1805 (sponsored by Simpson). We're in the middle of a study which is due out by November 15, 2005. We'll have our first estimate of tire pile cleanups soon. The Department of Revenue is crunching numbers. Revenues are lagging behind expected levels, probably due to seasonal tire buying cycles. We will come back next session to work on appropriation to clean up tire piles. The fee will be used for other purposes as well, including road maintenance.

Hazardous Substance Account – The Department of Revenue looked at this tax and found that it has been mis-taxing taxpayers to the tune of \$15 million. The account currently has around \$46 million and will continue going up.

Round Table

Cullen – HB 2488 (e-waste) October 7 is the last meeting of the e-waste group. Cullen will do a download at the November SWAC Meeting.

Bob Schille – Soils Rule – Will soil mixers be permitted? The answer: probably not. A briefing paper will be coming out soon from Ecology probably around the first of the year.

Suellen Mele – Working on a proposal to expand the "Take it Back" projects (electronics) with these counties: Yakima, Island, Pierce & Thurston.

Bill Reed – King County has a disposal ban on electronics, as well as mercury containing products.

Dennis Durbin – Stevens County found a 7-foot long rip in a leachate pond liner. The original construction was in 1991. A double liner will be installed.

Lorie Hewitt – There's a new general permit for biosolids. The Notice of Correction went out on September 27.

In attendance

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dennis Durbin, Stevens County2. Damon Taam, Spokane County3. Sego Jackson, Snohomish County4. Brad Lovaas, Wash. Refuse & Recycling5. Dean Large, Waste Connections, Inc6. Tiffany Hatch, Seattle Goodwill7. Penny Hansen, Wash. Utilities and Transp.8. Jim Matsuyama, NE Tri-county Health Dept.9. Bill Reed, King County10. Pete Keller, Rabanco11. Gretchen Olsen, Kitsap County12. Terri Washburn, Kitsap County13. Bill Dean, Thurston County14. Art Starry, Thurston County	<ol style="list-style-type: none">15. Bob Schille, Waste Management, Inc.16. Doug LeMay, LeMay, Inc.17. Eddie Westmoreland, Waste Connections, Inc.18. Jerry Smedes, Smedes & Assoc.19. Linda Dennis, B. Disposal Emerald Services20. Cullen Stephenson, Ecology21. Lorie Hewitt, Ecology22. Helen Fox, Ecology23. Cheryl Smith, Ecology24. Holly Wescott, Ecology25. Preston Horne-Brine, WSRA26. Suellen Mele, WCRC
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